

When I told him we would all be together in the one heaven, he obstinately shook his head and said it couldn't be so. This was rather discouraging but I thought it was just a foretaste of what foreign mission work will mean.

Since Brother Talley's meeting at the Montour church their membership numbers ninety. They had never been visited in the interest of the S. S. C. E. before I came, and were quite ready Sunday night to organize a sisters' society. Their offering that night amounted to \$2.60.

Tuesday evening, 17th, I arrived at Brooklyn to fill the appointment for a three nights' meeting. Brother, Hannan, who formerly preached in Kansas, has charge of this church. I found a small Ladies' Aid Society, which gladly changed its name and adopted the constitution of the S. S. C. E. May the Lord bless the efforts of their earnest workers.

I am being entertained at the home of sister Minnie Miller and her kind parents.

You'll pardon me for being somewhat brief in the Brooklyn report but Miss Ada Sanger has arrived and I simply must stop and talk Ashland College days with her. Tomorrow we take that long drive, over twenty-five miles to her home and the Millersburg church. She is the first of our students I have met since leaving Ohio. Soon, however, I shall see Mrs. Lichty at Falls City, Neb., where you may address me until I let you know differently.

I was not lost, Brother Gnagey, I had only crossed the Mississippi, had gotten into the west, and my letters having further to go did not reach the office in time for publication.

VIANNA DETWILER.

Our Young People

The Shepherd Psalm

The king of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth;
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight,
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so thru all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd! may I sing thy praise
Within thy house forever

—Rev. Sir Henry W. Baber.

ZEAL—Luke 16:1-13

Topic for August 12

Zeal is the main-spring back of a conviction which makes it effective. It is the measure of the reality of the conviction. It is vain to claim brotherly love and yet be indifferent to a brother's needs. It is

vain to claim love for the world and yet be unwilling to aid in evangelizing the world. It is vain to de-claim against the liquor-traffic and yet refuse to do the practical things toward wiping it out.

Zeal transforms faith into works. A certain infidel said, "If we skeptics had the zeal of Christians our cause would progress too." Exactly. But there is nothing in infidelity to inspire zeal. Sacrifice is caused either by love of personal gain or by unselfish devotion to a principle or the good of others. It is the claim of Christianity that it alone of all religions inspires men with this last and highest of motives. Its ideal of the kingdom of God holds up the reign of brotherly love. In proportion to our love for the kingdom will be our zeal in aiding it. It is not for us to look beyond it to the reward in heaven so much as to find joy in seeing love and good will abounding here. To this end we should stir up our own zeal and that of others.

SCRIPTURE HELP

1 Zeal is good or bad according to the cause, Gal. 4:17, 18.

Show how zeal was evil in the following instances.

2 Jehu, II Kings 10:16-19.

3 Saul, Acts 26:10, 11.

4 The Philistines, I Sam. 4:9, 10.

5 The Jews, Rom. 10:1-3.

Some things for which we should be zealous

6 Good gifts, I Cor. 12:31.

7 Good works, Titus 2:14.

8 Good doctrine, Jude 3; Heb. 2:1.

Name other things for which we should be zealous.

The inspiration to Christian zeal.

9 A great commandment, Matt. 28:19.

10 A great work, I Cor. 9:16.

11 A great helper, Mark 16:20.

12 A great promise, Gal. 6:9.

13 A great need, Rom. 10:13-15.

14 A great constraint, II Cor. 5:14.

15 A great reward, II Tim. 4:7, 8.

The effect of zeal.

16 Joy, Luke 10:17.

17 Inspiration to others, II Cor. 9:1, 2.

TOPICS FOR TALKS

1 Misguided zeal; examples of it and how to avoid it.

2 What the business world teaches about zeal.

3 The need of zeal in the work of the church.

4 How indifference may be turned into zeal for the Lord's work.

FOR ANSWER IN THE MEETING

1 What is zeal?

2 How may we know when to show zeal?

3 Give some examples of godly zeal.

4 Give some examples of ungodly zeal.

5 Is zeal a duty? II Tim. 4:2; I Cor. 16:13.

7 Can one be over-zealous in a good cause?

7 How is Jesus an example in zeal?

8 What are some things in which we should show more zeal?

9 What is the reward of zeal?

10 How can our society increase its zeal?

To the Leader.—This is your opportunity to be an example of zeal. "Actions speak louder than words." Get your helpers to testify by actions. Guide the meeting so that some definite causes of the church shall be more warmly supported than ever before.

C. F. YODER

Taking Part in Meeting

Forward

More than once it has been pointed out that an incidental advantage of the modern young people's movement has been its tendency to stimulate original thought on the weekly prayer meeting topics. There has been a distinct educational advantage in the preparation required of the members for the weekly meetings. Not only the leaders, but the participants generally, have been obliged

to read and study that they might find something worth contributing to the devotional gathering of Endeavorers. Some young people have used this privilege to the full. Their study of the Christian Endeavor topic has aided largely their spiritual growth. Others, it is to be feared, have not so exerted themselves. They have been content to make use of the helps provided in Christian Endeavor publications, assuming that it is the province of commentators to dig out the truth contained in the topics.

This is a grave error. It is not the privilege of the few to get original thoughts for the prayer-meetings. Every Endeavorer may go to the same sources as editors and commentators in studying the weekly topics. It is possible for him to develop the subject on entirely original lines, and this course is certain to be most helpful to the meeting and to himself. Perhaps a few suggestions upon how to get thoughts for the meeting may be of service to Endeavorers who have not relegated their thinking on the topics to the editor of their favorite paper.

The world's deepest fountain of thought is the Bible. It is the source of more intellectual activity than any other book. Since Christian Endeavor topics are all taken directly from its pages, the best means of studying these is to read the Bible itself. Compare Scripture with Scripture. Con carefully the selected passages. Follow out the references given in the margins of most Bibles. Make use of a concordance and a Bible dictionary. So far as is possible, find out everything that the Bible has to say on the topic in hand. This is the surest means of awakening original thought.

One reason that some of us have no new thoughts on the topics is that we do not take time to think. We assume that it is not our privilege to contribute anything of value to the subject, so we give no time to it. The Endeavorer who is willing to sit down with his Bible for half an hour of careful study of the week's topic, is sure to rise with a message well worth speaking. A popular hymn has for its refrain, "Take time to be holy." This is no more a truth than we should take time to think. Indeed, the two truths are quite akin. If we would get anything profitable out of our study of the topic we must put time into it.

Personal experience is a good illuminator of a topic. An Endeavorer in preparing for meeting should ask himself, "What has been my own experience in relation to this topic?" Usually he will find an incident that will not only make the topic more real to himself, but will also make it more interesting to the society.

There is a legitimate use for printed helps on the Christian Endeavor topics. This is not, in most cases, the reading of them in prayer meeting. Comments are written and published simply to direct original thought. We should read the opinions of others only to be stirred to mental activity ourselves.

When we spend time in meditation, when brain and heart become saturated with the